

THE UNIVERSAL WAR AGAINST THE CHINESE.

One of the last places in the world from which most people would expect a protest against Chinese immigration is the Hawaiian group of islands. The conditions of climate and the character of settlement in those islands would seem to be peculiarly favorable to the employment of Chinese labor, and yet such is the pressure of competition from the invading race that the Hawaiian and foreign population have been driven to demand severely restrictive measures to save the islands from becoming a mere "dumping ground" for China. Politically and socially very great strides have been made in Hawaii in recent years. The duties of citizenship have been taken up by the natives, freedom of government has been secured on a basis approximating to that of the most advanced nations, a national coinage has been adopted, agriculture and every form of enterprise have been extensively promoted, security of life and property has been guaranteed, large investments of English and American capital have been made on the good faith of a stable administration of the laws, and the relations with the United States have been so strengthened that a reciprocal treaty has been entered into which practically makes the Hawaiian group a part of the commercial territory of the American Republic. All this has been accomplished by the efforts of the Anglo-Saxon settlers, aided by the rapidly developing capacity of the native race. But the continuous influx of the Chinese has menaced this prospering condition. They have invaded the islands in great numbers, gone on to the plantations of the settlers, taken up plantations of their own, monopolized the menial occupations in the towns, threatened to oust the native and foreign population from their trades and laid such a gradual but unrelenting grasp upon the commercial and industrial life of the country that the necessity for prompt and severe restriction both upon those who are in and against those who would come in has been universally recognized. Legislative action in this direction has been demanded, and although not immediately promised there can be very little doubt from the tone of the reply given by the Ministry only last October to a petition on the subject that a restrictive measure will not be long delayed.

The reply referred to takes really the form of a manifesto bearing the signatures of the members of the Ministry. It is an able and interesting document, strong and dignified in tone and comprehensive in its treatment of the question. It quotes from documentary evidence gathered from all parts of the world (including Sir Henry Parkes' celebrated defiant protest to Lord Salisbury against the sacrifice of Australia to the Chinese treaty) the most convincing proofs of the pernicious character of Chinese immigration in its effects upon the communities it invades, and follows this up by a statement of the evils already threatening the Hawaiian Islands from this cause. As long as the Chinese population was small in Hawaii they were "peaceful and unobtrusive," but as soon as they became strong in numbers and wealth they began to show their power. Murders have been committed by members of their secret societies; witnesses who informed against them have suddenly disappeared; when arrests were made the accused have been smuggled out of the country; large sums of money were provided by wealthy Chinese to bribe members of the Legislature to vote against a certain measure, and five members were convicted of having accepted these bribes; and last, but certainly not least, they instigated and provided the "sinews of war" for the insurrection in July last. These are among the facts set forth in this manifesto and vouched for by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Minister of the Interior, the Minister of Finance and the Attorney-General. In addition to this we are told that "they are now gaining all the advantages of a successful war without any of its dangers. Silently but surely, year after year and step by step, they are invading and taking possession of almost every means of livelihood in the country and supplanting native Hawaiians and others of western civilization." Having regard to these facts the Ministry lay down the following three propositions, which, with nominal alterations, might be adopted by the Australian group:

First—The excessive proportion of Chinese in the Kingdom, and their rapid encroachment upon the various businesses and employments of the country, require adequate measures to prevent the speedy extinction in these islands of Western civilization by that of the East, and the substitution of a Chinese for the Hawaiian and other foreign population.

Second—The perpetuation of Anglo-Saxon civilization, introduced into these islands and adopted by the Hawaiian people early in the present century, is essential to the continuance of a free government and of the political independence of the Kingdom; and such civilization can be perpetuated only by retaining a population who have been educated therein, and who comprehend the workings and benefits of popular representative government.

Third—We believe that self-preservation, by nations as well as by individuals, is a principle universally recognized.

In the foregoing propositions the whole ground of opposition to Chinese immigration in every civilized country in the world is tersely and effectively stated. Taken in connection with the facts previously cited, there can be no doubt of the necessity for the adoption of remedial

measures. It is interesting to note the character of the legislation proposed by the Ministry, viz:—

1. That no Chinese other than teachers and officials shall be allowed to come to this country except in the capacity of laborers.
2. That no Chinese be admitted as laborers unless the agricultural necessities of the country require it, nor until the legislation hereunder indicated be secured.
3. That Chinese not now engaged in trade or the mechanical occupations be prohibited from hereafter engaging therein.

The third proposal goes beyond the legislation of other countries on this question but the necessities of the case appear to demand exceptional treatment. When we find Chinese merchants promoting rebellion, and Chinese workmen ousting white men from their occupations, their numbers and wealth and influence become apparent, and drastic measures are imperative for the mere sake of self-defense. Fortunately these colonies have been quick to realize the danger before it was actually upon them, and as far as we are concerned, there is now little more danger of an invasion from China than there is from the moon. In California the Chinese swarmed in so steadily that they numbered 8 per cent of the population along that coast before the pressure of public opinion was sufficiently felt at Washington to make restriction the law of the land. Other communities have suffered even to a greater extent, and universally the instinct of self-preservation has had to be asserted against the invading Mongolian hordes. The Hawaiian community is among the last to assert its resistance against the process of gradual extinction, and we congratulate the Ministry of that small but progressive kingdom upon the breadth and vigor and directness of its indictment against the "yellow agony."—[Sydney Daily Telegraph Dec. 27, 1889.]

NEWS AND NOTES.

The free public library, established in Baltimore five years ago by Enoch Pratt, at an expense of about \$1,250,000, is accomplishing a great work among the reading classes. Last year the number of books issued reached 461,840.

It is said that the New York State Bureau of Labor will add to its report for 1890 the average of wages lost to working people in various trades by dullness in trade and inclement weather. The report for 1889 will soon be issued.

A cablegram says that Professor Weichselbaum of the University of Vienna has discovered the bacillus of influenza. He finds in it some similarity to the pneumonia bacillus, but is sure that it is a distinctly different microbe.

It is said that George T. Smith's middlings purifier has increased the wealth of the Northwest fully \$500,000,000, and the American Millers' Association has awarded him a gold medal for bringing out the most important invention ever made in milling machinery.

The new States have all been nicknamed, but the character of the nomenclature is more suggestive than elegant. According to supposed authority North Dakota is the Flicker Tail State, South Dakota Swing Cat, Washington Chinook, and Montana the Stubbled Toe State.

The richest man in Russia, Count Sheremetjew, is about to produce Pushekin's play, "Boris Godunov," in his own house, and has spent 30,000 roubles on scenery and costumes. The performers will be noble amateurs, and the Royal Opera will supply the music and chorus.

It is a law of good society in China that young widows never marry again. Widowhood is therefore held in the highest esteem, and the older the widow grows the more agreeable does her position become with the people. Should she reach fifty years she may, by applying to the Emperor, get a sum of money with which to buy a tablet on which is engraved the sum of her virtues.

The official journal of the Congo Free State at Brussels publishes decrees granting a civil status in legal matters to Catholic and Protestant missions in that country. King Leopold has contributed a sum of money for establishing at Moanda, in the Congo country, a sanitarium in which African explorers and others in need of rest and medical treatment may be received.

The Germans have been the pioneers in scientific forestry, as in so many other lines of progress. With a total forest area of only 34,346,000 acres, of which 11,234,000 belong to the State, the German Empire now has no less than nine schools of forestry, and during the three years ending with 1888 it published 177 books on the various branches of the subject, also ten periodicals.

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